Mr. *De Labadie's* Letter

To his Daughter

Mrs. Delabadie,

Nurſe to the pretended Prince of *Wales*.

Written in Characters, and Deciphered by Dr. *Wallis*, Profeſſor of Geometry in *Oxford*.

Which ſaid *LETTER* is referred to by Mr. *Fuller* in his *Two Narratives*, and is a plain demonſtration of that horrid Impoſture.

WITH

Reflections upon it, and a full Anſwer to the Material Objections, in a late Pamphlet, Entituled, *The Trueſt Account of Mr.* Fullers *Diſcovery*, &c.

By another Hand.

Printed in the Year, 1696.

Mr. *De Labadie's* Letter

To his Daughter

Mrs. *De Labadie*, &c.

THAT Madam *De Labadie's* Letters and Papers Domonſtrating the Management of the ſuppoſititious Birth of the pretended *Prince of Wales*; were found in her fathers Trunks ſome years ago, and put into the hands of the Government, is very well known, the memory whereof being Lately reviv'd by Mr. *Fuller*, in his two Books on that Subject,

and the truth of it called in queſtion by another, publiſhed ſince, in favour of that pretended Prince : It is thought fit, for the ſatisfaction of the Nation, to publiſh the *following Copy* of one of thoſe Letters from Mr. *Labadie to his Daughter*, with ſome Remarks upon it; to make it appear, that what Mr. *Fuller* hath advanc'd concerning that horrid Impoſture, is as well Demonſtrated as a thing of that nature can be, except thoſe who were Actors in the Affair would confeſs it, which we have now no reaſon to expect.

The Reader is deſired to take notice, that the following Letter directed to Mrs. *De Labadie*, is one of thoſe that the Late Q. of Bleſſed Memory ordered to be Printed, but the performance of the ſame was prevented by the *L. N.* Pretending they were miſ-laid, as Mr. *Fuller* acquaints us, in his *further Confirmation*, pag. 5. And being in Cyphers, was amongſt other Papers of that ſort, Committed to the Care of Dr. *Wallis*, *Profeſſor of Geometry in Oxford*, and by him Deciphered. The

The Letter is thus.

TO

Mrs. De Labadie, preſent.

I Am ſo troubled about what you told me laſt time I ſaw you, that I cannot forbear any longer Writing to you; to know how her Majeſty behaves her ſelf in that hazardous undertaking.

I muſt Confeſs, the only thoughts of it makes me tremble. I hope Nevertheleſs, that the Ingenuity of her Country

Country, and the Goodneſs of her Cauſe will bring her off.

Lord what a happy thing it would be, if we could get a Succeſſor for our King, that would ſettle our Fore-fathers Profeſſion in our Country, which can never be but by this means.

I am afraid of thoſe Hereticks *that are about her, if theſe could be put out of the way it would be a very good thing. Adieu, my Dear, and don't fail to write to me by the bearer, and in the ſame hand. I reſt*

Your ever Loving,

Having

Having accounted already for the *Authority of this Letter*, it remains that we proceed to our Remarks.

In the first place, the Intreigue *concerning the Sham Prince* is so plainly expres'd in the Letter, that it can admit of no other Gloss, yet to obviate such Cavils or Evasions as the Faction abounds with; we shall make the following *Animadversions* upon it.

Here's, in the *first place*, *an hazardous matter to be undertaken* by her Majesty, that Mrs. *De Labadie* is acquainted with, and which she imparts to her father. Now her Majesties being really with Child, could not in Common sense be called an *undertaking*; but her Counterfeiting to be so, might very well be expres'd by that Name, and have the Epithet of *hazardous* as properly adjoin'd. And Mrs. *Labadie* being design'd for her Nurse, she was the fittest person in the World to bear a part in the Management, and that the Queen was only

only to Act the matter, is evident from *Mr. De Labadie's Concern to know how she behaved her self*: Whereas had there been a real Pregnancy, and a Natural Birth, there had been no need of any such Enquiry, nor no Cause for his Trouble, but rather for his Joy.

But that the *Only Thoughts of it should make him tremble*, as he expresses it in the second Paragraph, is yet a plainer demonstration of the hazard and danger to which he was apprehensive their Party would be expos'd, if her *Majesty* did *not behave her self as she ought*; which yet nevertheless he is in great hopes she will, because of *the Ingenuity of her Country, and the Goodness of her Cause*. It's true, that the Ingenuity of the *Italians*, in matters of Love, has been noted for many ages, of which the Book written by her Countryman, *Ovid de Arte Amandi*, is a Famous Instance; but that there's any other Ingenuity, *in Childbearing among the Italians*, than what is Natural to all other Women, is a thing not so much as pretended to; and then, as to her

her being brought off by the *Goodneſs of her Cauſe*, it plainly diſcovers that her Cauſe was not the Common Cauſe of all *Mothers*, which is, by the appointment of the *Almighty*, to Repleniſh the Earth; but hers was to *Repleniſh the Church of Rome*: and this is a freſh Inſtance of the Principles of the *Romiſh Party*, that there are no means, how unhallowed ſoever, which they don't think lawful to put in practice for the advancement of their Cauſe.

His next Paragraph contains a plain Declaration what that Cauſe is, viz. *To get a Succeſſor for their King, that would ſettle their Forefathers Profeſſion in their Country*. This is truly very pleaſant; other Kings uſe to get Succeſſors for themſelves; but K. *James*, poor Prince! muſt have one got for him. If there were not other Circumſtances which prove this Impoſture to be a Cheat of another Nature, we ſhould be tempted by this Expreſſion, to think that our Monarch had,

like *Henry* King of *Castile*, got some body else to lie with his Queen, seeing he was not able to get her with Child himself; but if that had been the Matter, there had been no need of the Queen's being so very Circumspect in her Behaviour, nor of making use of the *Ingenuity of her Country*, to Counterfeit a Big-Belly, but it was plain that a King of Clouts, in the strictest sense, was to be Paum'd upon the Nation, and that was the true Reason which made all this Precaution Necessary.

We are at a Loss, to understand, whether by the Last Sentence, viz. *Which can never be but by this means*, the Author understood, that the Popish Religion could never be Establisht in *England* without such a Successor; or that there was no other way to procure a Successor but by *this means*: If it be the Latter, then it is a plain demonstration, that they knew the Queen to be Impotent as well as the King, or otherwise

wiſe they might have made uſe of the *King of Caſtiles Means* above-mentioned, which the *Goodneſs of the Cauſe, and her Majeſty's Italian Ingenuity*, would ſoon have perſwaded her to; but if it be the former, then we hope it will open the Eyes of our Proteſtant *Jacobites*, and convince them, that the Chief Thing aim'd at by this Intrigue, was the overthrow of the Proteſtant Religion.

But the Concluding Paragraph gives us the Finiſhing Stroke, viz. *He was afraid of thoſe Hereticks that were about the Queen.* Why what's the Danger from thoſe Hereticks? why truly they ſuſpected, that the Queen, like the *Grecian-Horſe*, was Big, with Deſigns againſt our *Troy*; but they, poor Souls, were attended with *Caſſandra*'s Fate, viz. *They were not believed till the Plot diſcover'd it ſelf*: but if there had been no Impoſture Deſign'd, Why ſhould they be in ſuch a Mortal dread of the Hereticks; Could they kill, with a bare Look, like the *Baſilisk?*

ſilisk? Might not the *Queens naked Breaſt and Belly* have been expoſed to the View of the *Heretical Ladies* without any danger? Might not ſuch Perſons have been preſent at the Labour, and have been admitted to ſee the Child actually delivered from the Queen's Body? Or was it below the Queen of *England* to have been Delivered on a *Pallat-Bed in the view of the next Heireſs*, any more than it was below the late Queen of *France* to be Delivered of the Preſent King upon a Pallat-bed, the Duke of *Orleance*, who was the next Heir, being an Eye-witneſs.

But the Caſe is plain, the Proteſtants who were concerned in Conſcience and Intereſt to be ſtrict obſervers, were more likely to diſcover the Impoſture then others; and therefore it was neceſſary they ſhould be *put out of the way.*

So that we have the True Reaſon from Mr. *Delabadies* Pen, why no Proteſtant

teſtant Lady was ever Admitted to View the Queen's Breaſts, and try the Reality of her having Milk, either before, or after the Pretended Birth; and that ſame is the Reaſon why no Ladies of the Reformed Religion were ever admitted to *ſee, or feel her Belly:* and, in ſhort, this unfolds the Myſtery of all thoſe Precautions made uſe of to Amuſe the World, and to prevent a Diſcovery, as her *different Reckonings*, the keeping of the Place of her Lying-In uncertain, and the Methods taken to have all her Phyſicians and Servants abſent at the Time of her Pretended Delivery, except thoſe concerned in the Intrigue: And for that very ſame reaſon it was that ſhe pretended to be delivered in Bed Covered, and that the Proteſtant Ladies might have no opportunity to ſatisfie themſelves, it was Ordered, that the King and Council ſhould be preſent in the Room when all things were prepared for the Impoſture, that ſo there ſhould be a neceſ-

ſity

ſity of the Queen's being covered and a Plauſible Reaſon why the Ladies ſhould not deſire the contrary: and by this means it was impoſſible that they could be either Eye-Witneſſes of the Birth, or actually diſcover the Cheat.

We come now to Examine the Arguments advanced by the *Author* of the *Pamphlet*, Intituled, *The Trueſt Account of Mr.* Fuller's *Diſcovery of the True Mother of the Pretended Prince of* Wales, *Born the* 10*th of* June, 1688. *by a Perſon of Quality.* But before we touch on the Particulars, it is neceſſary that the *Author* ſhould be a little Unmaskt.

He pretends, *Page* 1. That the Succeſſion of the CROWN is otherwiſe Legally and Sufficiently Secured againſt any Title or Plea from the ſaid Prince, and that it may reaſonably be thought, that the Noiſe ſome Little Writers have lately

lately made about this Affair, has proceeded only from some sordid desire of Lucre, by the Sale of their Copies, and of rendring themselves Popular and Gracious with the *Unthinking Mob*, rather than out of any Zeal to Serve the Government.

And, *Page* 5. That the Persons supposed, or declared our Enemies, have True Faults enough to imploy our Censures, and therefore 'tis neither a part of Generosity, nor Christian Charity, to charge 'em with uncertain Suspicions, or any thing but what will bear the Test of a Visible Proof. All this is only an *Amusement*, by which the *Author* would Impose upon the *World*, as if he were no Enemy to the Present Government; and that he had only undertaken this Province out of a respect to Truth; but they must be very silly Birds indeed, who are caught with such Chaff: The whole design of this *Pamphlet* is to fix a Note of Injustice

ſtice upon the preſent Government, as having charged ſuch things upon the late King, as he was never guilty of, and particularly in relation to this Counterfeit Prince.

We come now to conſider his Arguments, which are, pag. 1. That *Whether the Birth of the pretended Prince of* Wales *were Legitimate or Suppoſititious, has not yet been thought a Queſtion worthy enough to be examined by publick Authority*, Which is a downright untruth; for the Late King *James*, thought it worthy to be proved by ſuch depoſitions as he was able to procure, and to have the ſaid Depoſitions, how Lame and Defective ſoever, entred on a publick Record in Chancery; as our Author owns himſelf, *pag.* 5. and 22. and that they were publiſht by Authority, juſt before the Revolution, *pag.* 20. By which its apparent, that the Queſtion was thought worthy of a Deciſion on his ſide, by all the authority that he was Maſter of, which does naturally imply that the

the truth of the matter was queſtion-ed by ſome *Authority* or other, and that it was really ſo, is plain to the View of the World by the Prince of *Oranges* Declaration, wherein he deſir'd that the Examination of this Queſtion might be referred to a free Parliament; and this he was impowered to demand by the *Authority* of our Laws, according to which his Princeſs was the preſumptive Heireſs to our Crown. But King *James* durſt not adventure to bring the matter to this Touch-ſtone, and therefore its apparent that inſtead of alledging, that this Queſtion has not been thought worthy enough to be examined by publick Authority, our Author ought to have ſaid, that the late King *James* durſt never ſubmit the matter to ſuch an Examination.

But we ſhall ſuppoſe the Gentlemans meaning to be this, that neither the Convention nor any of the Parliments, ſince the Revolution, have thought

the matter worthy their Examination. And if it be ſo, it's the leſs for the Credit of his Party, for then it muſt of neceſſity follow that they thought the matter ſo palpable that it needed no further Enquiry.

But if he mean that the Parliament or Convention ought to have made a ſcrutiny into this affair, before they had proceeded to the ſettlement of the Crown: He may be pleaſed to conſider, that they were not under the leaſt obligation to do ſo, for the late King had ſo much diffidence of the Juſtice of the *Engliſh* Nation; that he durſt not truſt them with the Determination of the point, but immediately ſent to *France* his Queen with her pretended *Son*, *Nurſe*, *Midwife*, and other Servants, who muſt have been examined if the matter had been ſubmitted to their Enquiry, and having, inſtead of calling a free Parliament, according to the Princes deſire, recall'd the Writs for

for Summoning of one, which he had endeavour'd to make for his Intereſt, and then withdrawn in perſon from the Kingdom, the ſucceeding Convention, and following Parliaments, had all the reaſon in the World to take it *pro confeſſo*, that he *own'd the Impoſture*, and therefore there was no reaſon that they ſhould give themſelves any further trouble about it.

The Gentleman is likewiſe deſir'd to Conſider, that the Late K. *James*, had by the methods above-mentioned rendered any ſuch Examination wholly impracticable ; for if the Parliament had been entruſted with ſuch a National Concern, the Queen, the Child, and all the Deponents, then in being, ought to have been perſonally preſent, that they might have anſwered ſuch Interrogatories, as the Wiſdom of the Nation ſhould have thought fit to propound to them, but whereas inſtead of ordering it ſo, the Late King ſent the

principal persons out of the way, who could best have attested the *Reality of the Birth*, or of the Imposture; it's an Argument sufficient to convince an Indifferent person, that there were some deeds of Darkness in the Case, which could not abide the Test of an Examination.

If it be answered that the Parliament however ought to have summoned those Witnesses to appear before them, or at least to have Examined such as Remain'd behnid. We Reply that the Late K. *James* having thought it his Interest to carry off the Witnesses, would certainly never have suffered them to come, for that had been a direct owning the Convention, Parliaments Authority and Power, to examine and decide that Question which he would never have submitted to, tho they had been call'd by himself, and much less when they were called by another; and therefore it had been very

very imprudent in them to have deferred the Settlement of the Nation upon that account, eſpecially ſeeing the Late King did never deſire that they ſhould make an Enquiry into that affair; and as to the Examining of the Witneſſes that were left behind, it was to no purpoſe, ſeeing the moſt material Witneſſes were carried beyond Sea, ſo that it if it ſhould have happened upon the Croſs Examination of thoſe that were left here, that the Impoſture ſhould have been diſcovered, the party would ſtill have raiſed a Clamour that Juſtice was not done them, becauſe the moſt material Witneſſes were abſent.

Our Author, page 5. Says, he will now lay before us, *Some proofs of another nature from a numerous Troop of Honourable Eye-Witneſſes, whoſe Teſtimony is on publick Record, and which, tho contradicted by Mr.* Fuller *and his Secretary; yet never was retracted and much leſs Con-*

Condemned, nor any other Equivalent Contradictory Testimony entred as yet in the like Records against it, these all unanimously declare the Late Queen to be his true Mother. A very plausible story, and a handsome skreen indeed to cover the Imposture, but will no more abide the Test of an Examination, than the pretended Birth; The Gentlemans Confidence is truly superlative to impose upon us in this manner, as if the Depositions imported that the Deponents, been made by such as were all of 'em Eye-Witnesses of the Prince's Birth, when by the same depositions it's plain and evident, that the Queen was covered in her Bed, and pretended to be so delivered, so that it was morally impossible for any of them to be Eye-Witnesses of the delivery; and this the Gentleman may soon be convinc'd of, if he do but cast his Eye on the very first of his Depositions, which is, that of the *Countess of Sunderland*; wherein we are told, that the Mid-

wife

wife pull'd her Ladyſhip by the Coat, which was the ſign agreed on betwixt them, to let her know that it was a Son, which had been altogether Needleſs if the Counteſs had been an Eye-Witneſs; and it is plainer ſtill by the reaſon of the private Sign, which was, that the Queen had charg'd the Midwife not to let Queen *Dowager* know preſently, whether it was a Son or a Daughter, ſo that neither the Counteſs of *Sunderland*, nor yet the Queen *Dowager*, whoſe Religion and Character entitled her to a pretence of ſeeing all that could be ſeen, were Eye-Witneſſes of the Birth, tho preſent all the time of the pretended Labour. Hence then it appears, that our Author does plainly equivocate in a Jeſuitical manner, for the ſupport of his Popiſh Cauſe, for every body will eaſily perceive the difference betwixt being Eye-Witneſſes, that a Child lately Born was taken out of the Bed from the Queen, where ſhe lay covered;

and

and being Eye-Witneſſes that the Child was really Born of the Queen's Body.

Then whereas he ſays that they do all Unanimouſly upon Oath declare the late *Queen* to be his true Mother, it is notoriouſly falſe. There are many of 'em indeed who talk of the *Queens* being Delivered, but that proceeded only from the common Idea which all Mankind form to themſelves in ſuch caſes, when they ſee or hear of a Womans being in Child-bed, but that they could juſtly depoſe upon Oath, That the *Queen* was his true Mother, was morally impoſſible, ſeeing they were not Eye Witneſſes of his being Born of the Queen's Body.

As to their Evidences never being retracted, we know no reaſon why it ſhould be expected, many of the Witneſſes were ſo devoted to the Cauſe as *Wilks Jurini de Labadie*, &c. That to make

make uſe of the common Expreſſion, they would ſwear through an Inch-board to ſerve it; and as for that part of the Evidence which relates to the ſeeing of the Queen's Shift wet with Milk, and a Child taken out of the Bed from her, there's no need of retracting it, for no body queſtions the Truth of it; as to the Milk, it might either be Counterfeit or real, without prejudice to our Cauſe, it being no extraordinary Phænomenon in Nature for thoſe to have Milk who have had no Children for ſeveral Years, tho there's more reaſon to ſuſpect a Counterfeit in this Caſe, and as to the Child there's no doubt of it, being taken out of the Queen's Bed, but all the queſtion is how it came there. The Author tells us, *pag.* 8. in Mrs. *Dauſon*'s Depoſitions, That the Queen was wholly left alone immediately before her (pretended) Labour, and that while ſhe was in her imaginary pains, ſhe ſaw the Fire carried into the *Queen's* Room in a Warming-Pan

to warm the Bed, though all agree that the Pan was covered; and the Author knows the Report which did then Universally obtain, that the Child was brought in the ſame from a neighbouring Apartment; and now that Mr. *Fuller* has Diſcovered Mrs. *Mary Greys* being brought to bed in the *Narrow Gallery*, between the *Queen*'s Apartment and the *Great Chapple* at the very ſame time, there's no room left to doubt but her Child was conveyed to the *Queen*'s Bed; and if there was not ſome ſuch abominable Cheat in Hand, why ſhould the *Queen* have been left alone in ſuch adangerous condition as ſhe was then pretended to be in? Why ſhould the King have gone to the other ſide of the Houſe with all the Men? Why ſhould all her own Servants be ſent to the Chappel, as if there had been no reaſon to attend upon the *Queen*, but that the Impoſture might be carried on with the more ſecrecy by the few that were to be Actors in the Intrigue.

What

What other Reaſon can there be aſſign'd for the *Queens* ſudden Removal to St. *James*'s, and that alſo in the Night; and why there was no more publick Proviſion made for her Lying In, and that it was not ſo much as talkt of, or ſeemingly apprehended by her Servants that very Morning, in ſo much that they were all ſent from about her, but becauſe they could not be certain whether Mrs. *Grey* ſhould bring forth a Dead or a Living Child, or a Son, or a Daughter, till the very Critical Minute; that ſo if it had either been a Female or a Dead Child, they might have found ſome other way either to carry on the Impoſture, or drop it at that time, but as ſoon as Mrs. *Grey* was delivered of a Boy, then all of a ſudden the *Queen*'s pretended Labour comes on: We don't know what *de facto proof* would ſatisfy our Author, but certainly all thoſe things, together with the *Queens* being

covered in Bed, and that neither of the Princeſſes nor their Deputies, nor none of the Privy Councellors, nor Ladies, Proteſtants, or Papiſts, were ſuffered to be the Eye Witneſſes of the Childs being actually taken out of her Body, as they ought to have been, conſidering the ſtrong and Violent ſuſpition there was of a Cheat, I ſay, that all thoſe things being Conſidered, it is as ſtrong a proof of the Impoſture, at leaſt, as his Depoſitions are of the *Real Birth*, for which there is but one ſingle Witneſs who ſwears poſitive, and that is the Midwife ; a begotted Papiſt, and a Tool fitted for the deſign, ſo that he has no reaſon to object againſt the ſingle Teſtimony of Mr. *Fuller* , when the Title of their pretended Prince has no more but one to ſupport it, and that alſo the Evidence of ſuch an one whoſe Teſtimony cannot be reviv'd in a civil Cauſe. We would moreover, deſire our Author to reconcile the Contradiction between the depo-

depoſitions of the ſaid Mrs. *Wilks* and the Lady *Bellaſis*, the former ſwears that ſhe cut *The Childs Navel ſtring in Bed, and that as ſoon as it was cut, the Child cried*; The latter ſwears, that ſhe ſaw the Child taken out of the Bed with the *Navel-ſtring hanging to his Belly*; and opening the Receiver, ſaw it was a Son, and *not hearing the Child cry*, and ſeeing it a Little black, ſhe was afraid it was in a Convulſion fit. Now this Lady depoſes ſhe ſtood behind the Midwifes Chair, and therefore it's ſtrange ſhe ſhould not have heard the Child cry, as well as the Midwife. But for theſe things, we refer to the *Compleat Hiſtory of the pretended Prince of Wales*, where the depoſitions are conſidered more at Large.

Then as to the Teſtimonies being on publick Record, He muſt give us leave to tell him, that there can be no leſs laid on that Examination, where

where the King was Defendant, the Papiſts Maintainers, ſo that His Majeſty ſat as Judge, and the Popiſh Defendants were examined for themſelves, and none to interrupt them.

By that ſame Rule which the party think his preſent Majeſty, and the Parliament were obliged to have ſummoned the Witneſſes who made thoſe depoſitions, in order to have made an Enquiry into that affair, the Late King was obliged to have made publick Proclamation, that all who know any thing concerning the matter ſhould come and depoſe upon Oath, ſuch their knowledge, with his Royal promiſe to Indemnify and not moleſt them, and the Examination ought to have been made in preſence of the two Princeſſes, and the Princes their Husbands, who ſhould have had Liberty to put ſuch Croſs queſtions to the Evidence as they thought fit. But nothing of this being done, and the Late King having

having alſo declin'd to ſubmit the Enquiry into the whole affair unto a free Parliament, our Author muſt give us leave to retain our ſuſpicion; notwithſtanding his ſtrenuous endeavours to amuſe the World with his Numerous Train of Eye-Witneſſes. The Inſtance of a forged Bond from a Gentleman in *Grays-Inn*, to his Laundreſs after he was Dead, and to which the Witneſs ſwore poſitively at firſt, pleads ſtrongly for the neceſſity of Croſs Interrogatories, ſeeing upon the Rebound the ſame Witneſſes who ſwore that they ſaw him ſign the Bond, did afterwards diſcover that it was by a Pen put in his hand, and guided by another after he was Dead.

Then as to their Teſtimonies never being condemned, nor any other contradictory equivalent Teſtimony entred, it's plain from what is already ſaid, that King *James* hath rendred that impracticable in ordinary courſe of Law,

nor

nor is it indeed neceſſary. Our Author being a Perſon of Quality, cannot be ignorant that the Impoſture deſigned by the former Queen *Mary*, was never, for any thing we know, condemned by Publick Authority. Nor did Queen *Elizabeth* cauſe any contradictory equivalent Teſtimony to be entred againſt it, and yet the Truth of the Impoſture is generally believed, nor would it have failed of coming as great a Length as this, if *Philip* II. had not been of a more generous temper than *James* II. and *Lewis* XIV.

It was certainly much better Founded than this laſt Impoſture, for not only the Privy-Council ſent Orders abroad to make Prayers for the Child, but the Parliament was ſo far impos'd upon as to enter into the conſideration of Proviſions for the Child, which was far greater Circumſtance of the Reality of the Pregnancy, than any thing that can be pretended to in this of the *Laſt Prince*

Prince of Wales, and therefore iti snot to be wondred at that ſo many Lords and Ladies ſhould be deceived in this caſe, ſeeing they were not allowed to ſee the *Actual Delivery*, and ſo they have rendered the Birth of their ſuppoſed Prince, for ever uncapable of being proven that way by any but the Tool of a Midwife, who cannot be admitted as a Witneſs in Law, ſo that all the proof which they can pretend to now is only that the Child was taken out of the Queen's Bed, *&c.* whereas all this might have been prevented had the *Princeſs of Denmark*, or any other Proteſtant Ladies been allowed to ſee the Child taken out of the Queen's Body.

It is alſo obſervable, that the former *Queen Marys* Impoſture was managed in the ſame manner, for none during her pretended bigneſs was admitted, on behalf of the Lady *Elizabeth*, to view her Breaſts or Belly, and ſeveral perſons were put out of favour and diſcarded for ſpeaking plainly in the Caſe, there being a General ſuſpicion

amongſt Proteſtants then, as there was now, as appears by *Bakers* Hiſtory, and *Foxes* Acts and Monuments; it muſt be own'd that *Queen Marys* Game was much harder to play then the Late *Queens*, becauſe King *Philip* was an utter Enemy to the Impoſture, but it cannot be ſo ſaid of the Late King *James*, for it is evident that he was a Zealot in it.

It may be objected, that *Queen Mary Tudors* deſign having miſcarried, there was no need of making any enquiry into that affair, or of entring a Contradictory Teſtimony againſt it. We anſwer that it's true, there was not the ſame need as in the preſent Caſe, yet if the matter could have been detected; It muſt be own'd that it would have been of great uſe, and a convincing inſtance to future Ages, that the Papiſts think no means unlawful, how wicked ſoever, if they can any way ſubſerve to promote their

their Church, for this ſuppoſed Pregnancy was by the Privy Council aſcribed to providence, and the Divine care of Chriſts only flock, for the throwing down of the Proteſtant Hereſie, and the Phyſicians, Ladies of Honour, *&c.* Juſtify'd the *Queens* conception as to all ſigns, ſo that it would have certainly been of very great uſe at that time, and have tended much to bring the Popiſh Idolatry into diſrepute, if the methods of the Impoſture, how they rais'd her Belly, and how they impos'd upon the Privy Council and Parliament, had been fully diſplaid.

And therefore ſeeing the Particulars of that Impoſture, tho allowed to be one, on all hands, never came to Light, nor that none of the Cabal did ever confeſs it

on their Death beds, or otherwiſe; we are not to wonder if this Intrigue ſhould never be fully diſcovered, eſpecially now that they have prevented the Evidence of Mrs. *Mary Grey*, who there's all the Reaſon in the World to believe, was the true Mother of our pretended Prince.

Our Author after having finiſhed his account of the *Depoſitions* tells us, *page* 22. That none of the Witneſſes were under any force, neither were they all of one Religion, yet they unanimouſly gave in their Teſtimony upon Oath, and ſuffer it without any Contradiction to be publickly Recorded in the Court of Chancery, as their ſtanding Teſtimony, that the Late *Queen Mary*, was the true Mother of the pretended Prince of *Wales*.

To

To all which it's answered, that their not being all of one Religion, is nothing at all to the Advantage of his Cause; for it must be own'd to our shame, that there are a *sort of Protestants* in *England* as bad, nay, worse than the *Papists* themselves; *Charnock*, *King*, *Keys*, *Rookwood*, *Louick*, *Parkins*, *Friend*, and *Cranborn*, were not all of one Religion, yet they were all in one Design against the Laws and Religion of the Nation; and it's obvious to any Man that peruses their *Tryals and last Speeches*, that such of them as professed themselves to be Protestans, were a great deal the worse fMen and Christians, than those of 'em that Died Papists, and we have a very late Instance of one who calls himself a Protestant, and a very devout one, who *forswore himself at his Tryal*, and

and denied ſuch things with the moſt dreadful of Imprecations, which he hath ſince Confeſſed to be true.

Then as to the Witneſſes being under no force, it is as little to the purpoſe, They were all of one Faction, a very few of them excepted, and ſo willing to promote the Deſign, that there was no need to force them to an Atteſtation, and whereas he will have it, that they gave their Unanimous Teſtimony upon Oath, That the Queen was the true Mother, he will find it otherwiſe upon a ſecond peruſal of the Depoſitions, as has been already noted, They only Swear what they heard and ſaw, but not one of them Depoſed, That they were Eye Witneſſes of the Birth, though our Author has the Confidence to ſay ſo again and again.

gain.– And upon the whole it is demonſtrable, that of all the thirty ſeven Witneſſes, there's only the Widwife who Swears to the thing it ſelf, and all the reſt ſwear only to Circumſtances, which being his own Exception againſt Mr. *Fullers Evidence*, pag. 23. He muſt needs allow it to be as Valid againſt theirs. He alledges, *Ibid.* that moſt of the Witneſſes were of high quality, and that others of them had intimate knowledg in the truth of the Fact. As to their Quality we ſhall ſay nothing; but certainly *Judith Wilks*, when ſhe gave in her Evidence at the *Chancery Bar*, did not appear like one who deſerves that Character, and it was indeed obſervable that ſhe went at other times richly Apparelled, yet then ſhe came habited in a *Green Apron, and a Tattered Scarf*, that her ſeeming Simplicity and Meanneſs might

create

create a belief in the Spectators, that ſhe was neither capable of managing ſuch an Intrigue, nor fit to be intruſted with it; and ſhe being the only Witneſs who Swears home, and having no pretenſions to Quality, that big word is of no ſignificancy to our Author.

But becauſe we would not be underſtood to reflect upon thoſe of *Quality*, or were undoubtedly of the Proteſtant Religion, and yet made uſe of as Evidence in this Caſe; we deſire it may be obſerved, that let their Probity and Quality be never ſo Eminent, matters were ſo ordered that they were not allowed to be Witneſſes of the Birth; but having been then at Court, they could neither handſomly nor ſafely refuſe to give an Account of what they heard and ſaw when the King deſired it: But as we have already

ready ſaid, the Examination was neither fairly nor impartially managed. Nor durſt any of them, but with the hazard of their Lives, have at that time ſaid any thing which could Adminiſter the leaſt Ground of Suſpicion, and tho we will grant our Author that none of 'em were under any force, yet he cannot pretend but they had cauſe enough of fear ; and whereas he alledges that others of the Witneſſes had intimate knowledge in the truth of the fact : It is a Notorious falſehood, for none of 'em pretend to it but the *Popiſh Midwife*.

His ridiculing the Eſcape, Examination and Tragical fate of Mrs. *Grey*, is but a very ordinary piece of Wit. Does he think that *Lewis* XIV. and *Mary* of *Modena* are perſons of ſuch a Refin'd

Honour and tender Conſcience, that they would ſcruple the Murder of ſuch an Inſignificant woman as Mrs. *Grey*, when it's plain to the World that their boundleſs Ambition and Zeal for Idolatry, hath involv'd *Europe* in Blood and Flames? Was it of no Concernment to thoſe two perſons, to prevent the diſcovery of the horrid Impoſture by ſuch a *Material Evidence*? Was it below the *French* Kings Grandeur, to Enquire whether her eſcape had been favoured by the Prince of *Oranges* Friends, as we are told by Mr. *Fuller* they did at firſt ſuſpect it to have been? Is *Lewis* XIV's. Conſcience, which is ſo much hardened with Blood and Deſtruction, that it can digeſt the *Aſſaſſination of Soveraign Princes*, become ſo very tender of Late, that it cannot away with

the Blood of a private Woman? Or is it reaſonable to think that they would truſt this poor Creature to our Authors *Oublies*, when they had before-hand Condemn'd her to perpetual Oblivion? Were not *Coleman* and *Plunket* hang'd to prevent telling of Tales, and what reaſon can our Author aſſign, why Mrs. *Grey* ſhould have more favour? Or ſuppoſing ſhe ſhould have eſcap't into *England*, and there made a *diſcovery*, does our Author think that his Extraordinary Invention of Charging it as a Forgery of the Prince of *Orange*, and his Friends, would have ſatisfied the World, and was it not more wiſely done in the *French King and his Meſſalina*, ſeeing our Author has put us in mind of it, to prevent the occaſion of ſuch a ſuperlative piece of Wit, then to venture the need of

making uſe of it? Might it not have been poſſible for Mrs. *Grey*, if ſhe had got into *England*, to have directed us to other Concurrent Teſtimonies to have ſtrengthened her own? How does this perſon of Quality know that ſhe could not have brought the *true Father, as well as the true Mother for a Witneſs*, or why may we not ſuppoſe that Mrs. *Grey* could have quoted ſuch Circumſtances, as might have turn'd a great part of his *thirty ſix Circumſtantial Witneſſes*, againſt his ſuppoſititious Prince? Tho our Au-

thor

thor could not or would not foreſee ſuch diſmal Conſequences, of Mrs. *Greys* Elopement from the fat Bellied *Monks*, to whom ſhe was married, yet *Lewis* XIV. and his *Meſſalina* could ſee further, and therefore rather than the whole Catholick cauſe ſhould ſuffer, it was expedient that one Woman ſhould Periſh, and thus his *Meſſalina*.

Ne Scelerata fit, facit Scelus.

The Gentleman is ſo hugely addicted to the *Apocrypha*, that none but *Apocryphal*

Original Authors will down with him; In the beginning he attacks us with the Noble *Zorobabel*, and he brings up his Rere with the *Cheva Lier Lestrange*, but we would have our Author to know that tho Sir *Roger* was formerly quoted from the Pulpit, the Commissioners of Enquiry, who were imployed to examine whether his works were to be found in the Canon, have made an *unanimous return* of *non est Inventus*; and thus we bid our Author Farewel.

FINIS.